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LONGFORD, J. H. *The Evolution of New Japan*. Pp. 166. Price, 40 cents. N. Y.: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

After a brief historical sketch of Japan, the author presents summaries of the chief features of Japanese life in our own day. The discussion is sympathetic and at some points glosses over defects in Japanese civilization generally recognized. Among foreign influences which are discussed that of England is given decided prominence. The more important chapters deal with Japan's foreign policy, social reforms and the struggle for national autonomy.

MASAOKA, NAOICHI. (Ed.) *Japan to America*. Pp. xii, 235. Price, \$1.25. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1914.

This little volume containing some thirty-five brief essays from the pens of Japanese statesmen and leaders of thought, expressing their candid sentiments on Japanese-American relations, should be helpful toward preserving the historic friendship between the two nations. The editor, a Japanese newspaper correspondent, who saw service during the Portsmouth peace conference and subsequently, is to be commended for his efforts to make Japan better known to Americans and America better known to the Japanese.

In a very terse and direct way leading Japanese statesmen like Premier Count Okuma and Privy Councillor Viscount Kaneko; commercial men like Asano, president of the Oriental Steamship Company; bankers like Baron Shibusawa; business men like Fukui of the Mitsui Products Company and Otani of the Yohokama Chamber of Commerce and professors like Suyehiro and others make their special pleas for the Japanese view of certain disputed questions. But they all emphasize coöperation, friendship and peace with America and the spirit of the message they desire to convey is encouraging and hopeful for good understanding and good feeling.

RUSSELL, LINDSAY. (Ed.) *America to Japan*. Pp. xv, 318. Price, \$1.25. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915.

This book is in response to *Japan to the United States* published in 1914. Mr. Russell, who is president of the Japan Society of New York, modestly announces himself as editor, but also contributes to it a valuable paper on "America's Interest in the Orient." The book contains a series of short articles, some fifty in number from statesmen, college presidents, business men and others expressive of America's good will to Japan, and dealing sensibly with points of danger. It ought to aid in the righteous work of removing misconceptions and cultivating an honorable and profitable friendship. Such an antidote to the apparently studied attempt to create animosity and misunderstanding is needed.